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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/678,311	10/03/2000	Hisayuki Furuse	040356/0332	5723

7590

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Richard L. Schwaab
FOLEY & LARDNER
Washington Harbour
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, DC 20007-5109

EXAMINER

LAM, THANH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 03/06/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/678,311

Applicant(s)

Furuse

Examiner

Thanh Lam

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Election filed on 01/30/2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) 7-9 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 7 20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The limitation "the middle core and inner core are rotor cores, and the *outer core* is a stator core" cited in claim 4 is vague and indefinite because the outer core is clearly cited in the independent claim 1 as a rotor, therefore, the core could not be a stator as cited in claim 4. The claim 4 has alternately cited a different embodiment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-3 and 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Redzic in view of Lawrenson.

Redzic discloses an electric rotating machine, comprising: a middle core (40), an outer core (32) disposed outside the middle core, and which rotates relative to the middle core, and an inner core (20) disposed inside the middle core, and which rotates relative to the middle core.

Redzic does not disclose that the middle core comprising the plural plates stacked in an axial direction are joined to a first fixing member by a connecting member.

Lawrenson discloses plural plates (21,30) stacked in an axial direction are joined to a first fixing member (57) by a connecting member (52).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the middle core of Redzic to accommodate the core with plates as taught by Lawrenson in order to provide the core with ease to assembly.

Regarding claims 2, it is noted that Lawrenson discloses the connecting member is a bolt (52), and a hole (53) through which the bolt passes is formed in the plural plates.

Regarding claims 3, it is noted that Lawrenson discloses the plates are ring-shaped thin plates.

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Regarding claims 5, it is noted that Redzic discloses the middle core is a stator core (40), and the outer core (32) and inner core (20) are rotor cores.

Regarding claims 6, it is noted that Lawrenson discloses the core is formed by a plural split core (3), the connecting member is a bolt (52), and a space (53) through which the bolt passes is formed between adjacent split cores.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Redzic in view of Lawrenson as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Shibata.

Redzic and Lawrenson disclose every aspect of the claimed invention except a cores arrangement of the machine comprising the middle core and inner core are rotor cores, and the outer core is a stator core.

Shibata discloses the cores arrangement of the motor comprising the middle core (42) and inner core (43) are rotor cores, and the outer core (44) is a stator core.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to rearrange the cores of the machine as taught by Redzic to accommodate the cores arrangement as disclosed by Shibata. Since, The applicant does not disclose the specific cores arrangement of the claim 4 to solve any particular problem. Therefore, the particular cores arrangement of Shibata would function equally well with the cores arrangement of claim 4.

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Election/Restriction

7. Applicant's election claims 1-6 of group I in Paper No. 9 is acknowledged. The request for rejoinder upon allowance that is not found persuasive because the non-elected claims 7-9 is directed to the process of making which draws different class and invention from the elected claims 1-6 of group II. Therefore, the non-elected group I will not be rejoined with elected group II. But, the applicant will be permitted to fill a divisional application.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh Lam whose telephone number is (703) 308-7626. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3431.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0656.



Thanh Lam

Patent Examiner

March, 4, 2002